

IN THE CLAIMS

1.-10. (canceled)

11. (new): A memory card adapter (1), connectable at an end thereof to an end of a compact memory card (4), wherein said memory card adapter and the compact memory card are connectable to form an assembly, the assembly lying substantially within a single plane and including a thickness, a width, and a length of a longer memory card greater than that of the compact memory card, the length being along a compact-memory-card insertion direction;

said memory card adapter comprising:

a core (3) comprised of a resin molded body; and

a frame metal fitting (2) assembled to said core; said frame metal fitting (2) including a pair of holding portions (21,22) each having a substantially U-shaped configuration, in cross section across the insertion direction, and provided on opposite ends of said frame metal fitting at a memory-card attaching side thereof, to attach the compact memory card thereto and a hook portion (23) provided between said pair of holding portions at said memory-card attaching side;

said holding portion being adapted to hold the opposite sides of an end of the compact memory card when the compact memory card is assembled with the memory card adapter;

said hook portion being adapted to detachably engage the end of the compact memory card by means of a first spring force so as to prevent said compact memory card from coming off the memory card adapter;

said frame metal fitting (2) further including caulking projections (24) which secure said frame metal fitting to said core (3) by means of caulking onto said core;

whereby the assembly is usable in a device adapted to the longer memory card.

12. (new): The adapter for a memory card according to Claim 11, wherein said pair of holding portions (21, 22) are formed into the substantially U-shaped configurations so as to exert a second spring force for elastically holding the compact memory card, and comprising a centering boss portion (25) provided on at least one of said holding portions for centering the compact memory card.

13. (new): The adapter for a memory card according to Claim 11 or 12, wherein at least one of said pair of holding portions (21, 22) includes a respective opening restriction piece (26) for restricting an excessive opening of said one of said holding portions when said frame metal fitting (2) is engaged with said core (3).

14. (new): The adapter for a memory card according to anyone of Claims 11 to 13, wherein end surfaces of said pair of holding portions (21,22) are cut diagonally (27) to the insertion direction at an insertion side of said compact memory card.

15. (new): The adapter for a memory card according to anyone of Claims 11 to 14, wherein at least one of said pair of holding portions (21,22) comprises a notch portion (29), wherein said notch portion is serviceable as a center of a relative rotation between the compact memory card and said frame metal fitting (2) when said adapter engages the compact memory card.

16. (new): The adapter for a memory card according to Claim 11, comprising displacement control means (28, 37) preventing said hook portion (23) from being displaced in a direction apart from said core when the ends of said hook portion and said hook portion are connected to each other.

17. (new): The adapter for a memory card according to Claim 11, comprising an insulation coating film (60) formed on an entire outer surface of said frame metal fitting.

18. (new): The adapter for a memory card according to Claim 11, comprising an insulation coating film (60) formed on a periphery of an outer surface of said frame metal fitting.

19. (new): The adapter for a memory card according to Claim 11, comprising the compact memory card (4) in combination with said memory card adapter (1).

19. (new): The adapter for a memory card according to Claim 11, wherein the length of a longer memory card is a length of a normal-size memory card.

20. (new): A method for using a shorter compact memory card (4) in a device adapted for a longer memory card, comprising:

providing a memory card adapter (1); and

forming an assembly by connecting the compact memory card to the memory card adapter in such a way that the compact memory card and the memory card adapter lie in substantially a single plane, and wherein the assembly has a thickness, a width and a length of the longer memory card;

wherein said memory card adapter comprises:

a core (3) comprised of a resin molded body; and

a frame metal fitting (2) assembled to said core; said frame metal fitting (2) including

a pair of holding portions (21,22) each having a substantially U-shaped configuration, in cross section across the insertion direction, and provided on opposite ends of said frame metal fitting at a memory-card attaching side thereof, to attach the compact memory card thereto and

a hook portion (23) provided between said pair of holding portions at said memory-card attaching side;

said holding portion being adapted to hold the opposite sides of an end of the compact memory card when the compact memory card is assembled with the memory card adapter;

said hook portion being adapted to detachably engage the end of the compact memory card by means of a first spring force so as to prevent said compact memory card from coming off the memory card adapter;

said frame metal fitting (2) further including caulking projections (24) which secure said frame metal fitting to said core (3) by means of caulking onto said core;

whereby the assembly is usable in a device adapted to the longer memory card.